

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

Established 1872.

Published Daily by THE J. S. DELLINGER COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year...\$7 00
By mail, per month... 60
By carrier, per month... 75

WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

L. J. mail, per year, in advance...\$1 00

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Learning made easy seems to be the ideal of the modern pedagogue. His endeavor is to spare the student exertion. The elective curriculum enables the student to follow the line of least resistance in choosing a course of studies.

If education consists, as the authorities say it does, more in mental discipline and training than in storing the memory with facts, do not the easy methods now in vogue defeat the purpose of the whole scheme?

Men are not as a class sympathetic with other people's suffering, although when a man is in pain he is very imperious and insistent in his demand for sympathy.

To have suffered keen sorrow and intense pain is a valuable experience well worth what it costs. One who has descended into the depths of wretchedness can always thereafter feel for another who is there.

Yet too much suffering is demoralizing. Intense pain, long endured, will turn a man into a savage. Men, such as convicts, long subjected to brutal treatment become themselves brutalized and, if given a position of authority, will be cruel and tyrannical.

In a recent issue of the Astorian conditions were cited that would develop as a result of the telegraphers' strike on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railways. Attention was called to the fact that these railways were peculiarly located and that much suffering would be visited upon the regions they touch if the strike continued for any length of time.

mer employes of his road has exploded any such theory. General Manager Horn of the Northern Pacific has issued an ultimatum to the telegraphers, which is less bombastic than the utterance of Mr. Hill and is yet firm, dictating that the men must return to work within ten days and subject to conditions as to their rating which he will impose.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

THE EXILED HOBBY HORSE.

Hark, dear friends, to my pitiful tale, of how I crossed the seas, Sent by a loving grandma, to the land of the Japanese!

They packed me up in a box so tight, with canvas round my head; I'd rather been back in the toy-ship, or anywhere else instead.

Now I've settled down in this foreign land, and am learning every day To love this child and her "Ama," and guess at what they say.

My mistress is not a yellow babe, but as white as she can be, With golden hair upon her head and eyes that match the sea.

And she loves me, I assure you, for she thinks my rickety-rook As fine as a Japanese pony, in either a gallop or trot.

So when she puts her arms round me, and gives me a good hard squeeze, I open my round eyes wider with a wild endeavor to please.

But my heart is filled with sadness, for doubtless this maiden will grow And I'll pass on to somebody else—do you wonder my spirits get low?

For how could a Japanese maiden ride me with any repose? It never would do—I've seen a few—they don't wear suitable clothes.

So a muscular boy will get me and ride astride of my back— In this land of go he'll think me slow and give me many a whack.

And with my sides all battered down, what chance have I, or show To return to that dear land so free, where I'm loved by high and low?

And that is under the Stars and Stripes, forever and a day. —By Catherine Norris Harrison.

THE OLD HOME PORCH.

A plague on city porches close abutting on the street!

They're purely ornamental, and for comfort not designed— The small and stuffy porches unprotected from the heat!

That steams from street and pavement, and no rest on them I find!

Where's one to swing a hammock so's to stretch a yawning arm And never crack his knuckles on the railing's close confines?

Oh, give me, please, the porch the home-folks have down on the farm Where green wistaria tangles and where five-leaved ivy twines!

I'd like to have my hammock swing between an outer post Of that wide porch and our old house, the house where I was born;

There I could lie and rest the while sweet memories, a host, Passed in review, fond memories of of boyhood's sun-kissed morn.

In that retreat so leaf-ensconced the world I'd quite forget; I'd smooth from out my brow dull worry's deeply penciled lines;

From that old porch I'd wave adieu to flurry, fume and fret— Where green wistaria tangles and where five-leaved ivy twines.

The August heats were powerless then to reach or assail My rest when daily toil were o'er and and twilight shadows should An evening in my hammock then with gladness I could hail;

Of sultry city nights I then would feel no dread at all. A broad old porch all garlanded with close-meshed leaves of green.

A porch that cozy comfort and not ornament designed— Not man-made porch, but God-made porch and Nature-clad, I ween—

Where green wistaria tangles and where five-leaved ivy twines. —By Roy Farrell Greene.

HIS LITTLE JOKE.

Chief of Police—But if you don't know the name of the clairvoyant who robbed you, can't you at least give us a description of her?

Victim—Well, she wasn't very short nor very tall— Chief of Police—Naturally. Of course a clairvoyant would be of medium build.

—Philadelphia Press.

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